

IN THE CLAIMS

1 - 64 (*Cancelled*)

65. (*New*) Valacyclovir hydrochloride hydrate.
66. (*New*) The valacyclovir hydrochloride hydrate of claim 65, having a water content of between about 6% and about 10%.
67. (*New*) The valacyclovir hydrochloride hydrate of claim 66, having a water content of between about 8% and about 10%.
68. (*New*) The valacyclovir hydrochloride hydrate of claim 67, which is Form I.
69. (*New*) A process for making valacyclovir hydrochloride hydrate comprising the steps of:
- a) mixing crude valacyclovir hydrochloride with water;
 - b) heating the mixture;
 - c) cooling the mixture;
 - d) further cooling the mixture;
 - e) suspending the mixture in lower alkanol;
 - f) isolating the precipitate;
 - g) drying the product of step f; and
 - h) recovering valacyclovir hydrochloride hydrate.
70. (*New*) The process of claim 69, wherein the mixture of step b is heated to a temperature of from about 35°C to about 45°C .
71. (*New*) The process of claim 69, wherein the mixture of step c is cooled to a temperature of from about 30°C to about 40°C.
72. (*New*) The process of claim 69, wherein the mixture of step e is cooled to a temperature of about -5°C.
73. (*New*) The process of claim 69, wherein the lower alkanol is isopropyl alcohol.
74. (*New*) The process of claim 69, wherein the product of step f is dried at a temperature of from about 30°C to about 45°C.

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75. (New) The process of claim 74, wherein the product of step f is dried at a temperature of from about 35°C to about 45°C.
76. (New) The process of claim 69, wherein the product of step f is dried for a period of time of from about 1 hour to 40 hours.
77. (New) The process of claim 76, wherein the product of step f is dried for a period of time of from about 1 hour to 18 hours.